IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

1.-10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for demultiplexing object streams from a datastream which includes a plurality of object streams each having predetermined information, scene description information for synthesizing information contained in the plurality of object streams, and a management stream including management information for managing ~~a copyright~~ intellectual property of the information, ~~playing back~~ reproducing each information, and synthesizing and outputting the reproduced information on the basis of the scene description information, comprising:

a) ~~an authentication step of authenticating at least one object stream~~ a discriminating step, of discriminating, on the basis of the management information, an intellectual property management type of information data of at least one of the plurality of object streams; and

b) a control step, of ~~controlling playback~~ effecting reproduction control of the object stream ~~in accordance with an authentication result of said authentication step,~~

wherein said control step includes a step of ~~determining~~ controlling, in accordance with ~~an authentication method~~ a discrimination result in said discriminating

step, whether the ~~playback~~ reproduction control is ~~done~~ performed before or after decoding of the object stream.

2
~~12.~~ (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program ~~of~~ for implementing the information processing ~~method~~ of claim 11.

13.-21. (Canceled).

4
~~22.~~ (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for demultiplexing object streams from a datastream which includes a plurality of object streams each having predetermined information, scene description information for synthesizing information contained in the plurality of object streams, and a management stream including management information for managing ~~a copyright~~ intellectual property of the information, ~~playing back~~ reproducing each information, and synthesizing and outputting the reproduced information on the basis of the scene description information, comprising:

a) ~~authentication means for authenticating at least one object stream~~ discriminating means for discriminating, on the basis of the management information, an intellectual property management type of information data of at least one of the plurality of object streams; and

b) control means for ~~controlling playback~~ effecting reproduction control of the object stream ~~in accordance with an output from said authentication means,~~

- 3 -

wherein said control means ~~determines~~ controls in accordance with ~~an authentication method~~ a discrimination result of said discriminating means whether the ~~playback~~ reproduction control is ~~done~~ performed before or after decoding of the object stream.

6
~~23.~~ (Currently Amended) An information processing method comprising:

a) an input step, of inputting encoded information data[[,]] and management data ~~used to protect an~~ for managing intellectual property ~~right~~ of the information data;

b) a discrimination step, of discriminating, ~~an authentication method for the information data~~ on the basis of the management data, an intellectual property management type of the information data; and

c) a control step, of ~~making playback~~ effecting reproduction control of the encoded information data,

wherein said control step includes a step of controlling, in accordance with a discrimination result of ~~the~~ said discrimination step, whether the ~~playback~~ reproduction control in ~~the~~ said control step is ~~done~~ performed before or after decoding of the information data.

6
~~24.~~ (Original) A method according to claim ~~23,~~ wherein the information data is a datastream containing a plurality of object streams each having predetermined information.

- 4 -

25. (Original) A method according to claim 24, wherein the datastream complies with MPEG-4 standards.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 25, wherein the management data is IPMP data complying with the MPEG-4 standards.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 23, wherein the information data is image data.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 23, wherein the information data is audio data.

29. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23, wherein said discrimination step includes a step of discriminating if authentication is done whether the intellectual property management type is a type using a digital watermark or not.

30. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a) input means for inputting encoded information data[[,]] and management data used to protect an for managing intellectual property right of the information data;

- 5 -

b)   discrimination means for discriminating, ~~an authentication~~ ~~method for the information data~~ on the basis of the management data, an intellectual property management type of the information data; and

c)   control means for ~~making playback~~ effecting reproduction control of the encoded information data,

wherein said control means controls, in accordance with a discrimination result of said discrimination means, whether the ~~playback~~ reproduction control ~~in the control step~~ is ~~done~~ performed before or after decoding of the information data.

15
~~31.~~   (Original) An apparatus according to claim ~~30~~ 14, wherein the information data is a datastream containing a plurality of object streams each having predetermined information.

16
~~32.~~   (Original) An apparatus according to claim ~~31~~ 15, wherein the datastream complies with MPEG-4 standards.

17
~~33.~~   (Original) An apparatus according to claim ~~32~~ wherein the management data is IPMP data complying with the MPEG-4 standards.

18
~~34.~~   (Original) An apparatus according to claim ~~30~~ 14, wherein the information data is image data.

35 (Original) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein the information data is audio data.

36 (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said discrimination means discriminates ~~if authentication is done~~ whether the intellectual property management type is a type using a digital watermark or not.

37 (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said discriminating step includes discriminating whether the intellectual property management type is a type using a digital watermark or not.

38 (New) A method according to claim 22, wherein said discriminating means discriminates whether the intellectual property management type is a type using a digital watermark.

39 (New) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for implementing the information processing method of claim 23.